

FORTUNE AND PHILANTHROPY

MRS. CLARENCE MACKAY AN IDEAL SCHOOL TRUSTEE.

This Leading Member of Society Takes an Active Interest in the Civic Affairs of the Town of Roslyn, N. Y.

"I believe it is better for people of the wealthy class to help improve the public schools than to spend their money on yachts or parks or private schools."

This little declaration, made by Mrs. Clarence Mackay at the first meeting held by the school board of Roslyn, L. I., since her election as a member, somewhat contradicts the thimble story criticism that American women of wealth live only useless idle lives, more like orphans in a conservatory than human beings created to labor. Mrs. Mackay worked very hard to be elected a trustee of the Roslyn public schools, quite as hard as John F. Remsen, the lively stable man who ran on the same ticket, and secured just one vote less than she did. It is doubtful, however, if Mr. Remsen put one-half the enthusiasm into the campaign or entered it with the same impulse.

Roslyn, L. I., is a quaint little village of people possessing but a very, very modest share of worldly goods, but is surrounded by great country estates belonging to rich New Yorkers, their big houses, stables, parks and game preserves recalling the stately domains of England. They are used, too, much after the English fashion, for week-end house parties and Christmas festivities.



Harbor Hill is among the most beautiful of these picturesque places, and the big colonial house, unlike its giddy French-chateau neighbors, is not often left in emptiness, for Mrs. Mackay, for the sake of her small daughters, Katherine and Blanche, has made it her permanent home, going to New York only in the dead of winter.

While driving through Roslyn one day last winter she saw the school children standing out in the cold, windy yard eating their lunch. Her very natural sympathy developed into the determination to do something toward making that miserable lunch hour more comfortable for them. Investigation brought out other deficiencies in the public school of Roslyn, and the children's champion took up the work of improvement with energy and practical common sense. Her method of going to work was pretty, as well as effective. She began her campaign through the children themselves, gathering them into Harbor Hill for winter frolics and summer lawn parties, getting acquainted with each little mite, playing with them, talking to them, and sending them home warm and tired after all the fun, but still with useful new ambitions in their little souls. The kiddies, finding in her a congenial spirit, feeling that she liked being with them, had a nice little warm spot in her heart for each one of them; and was not simply a grown-up giving a lot of poor children a treat, fell in love with her. Through them she won the friendship of the fathers and mothers, and when she launched her scheme for an \$8,000 bond issue (the money to be used in school improvements) a majority of the citizens voted for it, even though it raised taxes from 82 cents to 1.25 a year. Of course, the increase was more heavily upon the poorer taxpayers of the village than on their wealthy neighbors; but, as the originator of the plan said, it is the former who are most directly interested in the quality of the public schools, their children actually receiving the cash value of every dollar that is paid in school taxes.

Since her election to the board of trustees, she has begun to unfold her

plans for improvements that will add to the physical comfort of the children; in fact, the very first suggestion she made in board meeting was that the room used for such meetings be turned over to the children on bad days, so that they need not eat their lunch outdoors. She has urged the employment of teachers of manual training and live languages, such as German and Italian, in order that later on the children may not find themselves strangers to either their hands or the language of their neighbors. Permission has been granted her to make some provision for the comfort of the teachers without cost to the community.

To raise money for further improvements, Mrs. Mackay gave a bazaar. Stories of the architectural beauty of the house, and of the wonderful effects obtained in landscape gardening, had aroused public curiosity and five thousand tickets were sold. Mrs. Mackay racked her brain for new ideas, and impressed the prettiest of her women friends into service behind the booths. They made several thousand dollars from one o'clock to seven of a single afternoon.

Then Mr. Mackay gave the hospital a \$20,000 building, to be used as a home and training school for nurses, and his wife provided an ambulance.

A small fire in the village demonstrated the inefficiency of the fire department, and Mrs. Mackay promptly gave a fully equipped engine. It might be said with some show of truth that she has adopted Roslyn and watches over it from Harbor Hill very much as the English "Lady of the Manor" watches over and works for her tenants. She is herself of English

NO ROYAL ROAD TO SUCCESS.

EX-SECRETARY MORTON THINKS INTEGRITY THE FOUNDATION OF ADVANCEMENT.

Constancy of Purpose and Tireless Energy Essential in These Days of Fierce Competition.

Hon. Paul Morton, former Secretary of the Navy and now reorganizing the Equitable Life Assurance Society of New York, recently made the statement that the efforts put forth in the early years of an individual's life are a sure indicator of whether his life will be a success or a failure.

"I do not see that there is any difference," he said, "even any shade of difference, between success in railroads and success elsewhere. It all depends upon the individual. That should be driven into the minds of all young men. There is no easy way to anything worth having. Application, brains, common sense and character—these are the essentials everywhere."

"In the railroad, or in any other business, the special talents necessary for worthy achievement are, first, integrity and common sense—integrity, of course, is a fundamental virtue—and second, concentration and industry. In order to succeed at anything one must really like his work. A man who serves an enterprise or institution simply that he may earn his livelihood, or who works by the clock, waiting for the bell to ring or the whistle to blow, and has not an intense interest in the task he is doing, will not succeed."

"Competition at the top is less than it is at the bottom. It is the first years that count, although there can be no suspension of energy and purpose by any man in these days of fierce competition, no matter how high he gets."

THE SUN'S CORONA.

Brilliant Display of Crimson and Silver Flames Seen at Eclipse of Sun.

Items appearing from time to time describing the wonderful beauty of the sun's corona, and the hazardous expeditions of astronomers over the desert's sands in order to make observations and photographs of this phenomena, lend interest to the question of its composition and cause. At the moment, when the sun's disc is obscured in a total eclipse, enormous brilliant red flames, sometimes curling over toward the sun and sometimes floating like clouds at heights up to 40,000 miles above this surface, appear over the region of sunspots, where the sun's eruptive activity is greatest. Great silvery streamers are also seen about the same region, often extending to a distance of several



The Sun's Corona Showing Streamers.

times the sun's radius. These are what is known as the prominences and the corona. It is the theory that the sun projects vapor into space, which, when condensing into large drops, falls back to the sun, giving rise to the curved prominences, while, if of small size, the drops are driven off again into the atmosphere, showing the streamers of the corona. However, with all the knowledge of the astronomers, the exact composition of the corona is a matter of conjecture, some believing that the particles of condensation are not alone moisture, but a continuous mass of gas held up by its own elasticity. A well-known professor of astronomy, when asked the question of what is the corona composed, frankly stated, "I do not know what to make of the corona." It is believed, however, that the recent observations of the eclipse and the corona will solve this question.

American Girls Abroad as "Men-Women."

The Contemporary Review of London severely arraigns the American women who have married into the British aristocracy. Of over seventy women who bear titles more than half have no children. At this time only one peeress, born in the United States, has a large family. The reason for this, the Review says, lies in the fact that so many American women consider that the ordinary lot of their sex is not enough for them. They fancy they are made to be something more than "mere women." They become "men-women." They submit to no restraints. They pit themselves against men on every ground, intellectual as well as social, both in business and in sport. They lose the tender, delicate qualities of their own sex, and, of course, they fall utterly to reap any reward but disappointment and ridicule from their efforts to acquire those of the other.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

Fundamental Bases on Which Two Empires Rest Radically Different.

Anything concerning the two great empires now occupying the world's stage is of general interest. Late reports from American consuls show some figures relating to nationalities, ethnographic distribution, illiteracy, religion, etc. The total population of the Russian Empire is 125,640,000, the Russians leading with 84,000,000; Poles following with nearly 10,000,000; Jews next with 5,000,000, the remainder being made of forty or more great tribes, of which eight exceed a million each in number, many of whom live not unlike American Indians.



Russian Railway Station Devotions.

Ignorance is universal. Of the Russians only about 30 per cent. of the males and less than 10 per cent. of the females can read and write. It is doubtful if the people outside of the large cities know anything of the existence of the war with Japan, certainly no details. The army is recruited under the conscript system and privates go to war or to fortress guard duty as uninformed about their movements or destination as cattle to the slaughter pen.

The number of adherents to the principal religious denominations is as follows: Orthodox, 87,000,000; old faith and dissenters from orthodox, 2,000,000; Roman Catholics, 11,000,000; Jews, 5,000,000; Protestants, 3,000,000; Armenian Gregorians, 1,000,000; Mohammedans, 15,000,000.

Russians Lacking in Religious Understanding.

The Russians are on the surface an exceedingly religious people. They continually interrupt their daily occupations for a prayer, a sign of the cross, or with a low or prostration before every village or city church and every roadside ikon. In the railway stations there are little altars before which passengers bend in reverence upon setting out on a journey. In spite, however, of apparent devotion, the Russian is lacking in religious sentiment. Christianity has not yet penetrated the stolid peasant masses. Whilst accepting the ceremonies of Byzantium, the Russian people have learned little of the ethical teachings of Christianity. External devotion does not necessarily suppose real religious sentiment, and Russian authorities do not hesitate to deny that there is any great underlying character or tone to the people. They bow to authority as a timid child does to a stern parent. Many of the Russian priests are ignorant men, but sufficiently trained to go through the forms of repeating the service and performing other church duties.

The Russian population is made up of the various classes, in about the following proportions: Peasants, 96,900,000; Burghers, 13,500,000; Hereditary Noblemen, 1,200,000; Personal Noblemen and Officials, 630,000; Ecclesiastics, 588,000; Hereditary and Personal Honorary Citizens, 342,000; Merchants, 281,000, and Foreigners, 605,500. These figures are five or six years old, as the Russian authorities are loth to give out information.

Great Density of Japanese Population.

The population of Japan, according to the census of 1903, was nearly 48,000,000, and by adding that of Formosa, with nearly 3,000,000, the Japanese Empire contains over 50,000,000 people. The density of population ranges from 200 to 1,000 persons to the square mile. The Kinal district, which includes the cities of Kobe and Osaka, with nearly 1,100 to the square mile, being the most densely populated.

During the census period of ten years ending with 1903, the average annual increase of population in Japan was nearly 500,000. The need of Korea on the mainland for this overflow is apparent. The present empire consists of four large islands and several thousand smaller ones. The Japanese style their country Nippon.

Thirty Million Farmers.

Of the population of Japan, over 30,000,000 are farmers. This is nothing short of wonderful when it is considered that the major portion of the Empire is mountainous and unproductive and the immense population is supported from tiny farms covering a cultivatable area of only 19,000 square miles, a tract of land less than one-half the area of Ohio, supplemented by levying contributions on the sea along the extensive coast line. No other nation in the world has reduced agriculture to such a fine practical science; and in the opinion of Eastern writers the wonderful spirit of devotion to country which has been manifested by the Japanese soldiery is due to the spirit of patriotism based on the "home acres" of the population. "Rooted to the soil" would be the expression to describe the condition of the major portion of Japan's population.

SEARCH FOR NORTH POLE.

COMMANDER PEARY TRAVELING INTO FROZEN NORTH ON ANOTHER EXPEDITION.

The Most Notable of the Many Attempts to Effect This Discovery. Prof. Andree's Balloon Trip Recalled.

The departure of Commander R. E. Peary on the sloop Roosevelt, last July, for an exploration of the Arctic regions in an endeavor to reach the North Pole adds another effort to the friendly rivalry among nations in their endeavors to further the cause of geographical discovery, with the view of advancing their respective flags over the threshold of the explored region into the interesting and mysterious unknown. The United States, Great Britain, Austria-Hungary, Sweden, Germany, Russia, Holland and Norway have interested themselves in these north polar explorations. Perhaps the credit should be given to the United States for having delineated the greatest amount of coast line on our north polar maps, but it is only fair to add that this has only been accomplished, in a great measure, through the excellent geographical work achieved by parties dispatched by England, from 1849 to 1853, with the object of searching for the missing Franklin expedition.

To Austria-Hungary may be given the credit for the discovery of a large extent of that territory known as Kaiser Franz Josef Land. Sweden found the northeast passage along the north coast of Europe and Asia from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Germany



Commander R. E. Peary.

has successfully traced the east coast of Greenland to as far north as Cape Bismarck. Russia has done admirable survey work of the Arctic seaboard. Holland has done much to familiarize us with the condition and drift of the ice in the Barents Sea, even as far as the shores of Franz Josef Land. And Norway, through Fridtjof Nansen, who with indomitable pluck and energy made his marvelous journey on snowshoes across the icy continent of Greenland, has won laurels in the explorations of the Arctic regions.

Of the various explorations, however, none seemed to be surrounded with such originality and, as some authorities declared, with so much foolhardiness as the project of S. A. Andree, who, with two companions, on July 11, 1897, ascended from Dances' Island in a balloon, and sailed away northward, hoping by this untried means to reach the North Pole. Reckless as this may have seemed, it had been very coolly and prudently and systematically prepared for. Andree's visit to America in 1876, during the Centennial Exhibition, gave him an opportunity to observe the seeming regularity of the trade-winds and the possibility of balloon voyages across the Atlantic. In 1895 he had matured his plans for a balloon expedition into the Arctic, estimating the cost of the project at a little over \$75,000, which sum was speedily forthcoming from wealthy scientists.



The Last Glimpse of Andree's Balloon.

Andree's balloon and stores were conveyed to Dances' Island; a balloon house was erected and engines set up for producing hydrogen gas and inflating the balloon. All, indeed, was made ready for the start in 1898; but the south wind which was wanted for the start did not come. The party waited for it until the season had advanced too far for a safe venture, and then returned to Sweden. In May, 1897, they returned, and by July 1st again had everything ready for a start. Again the south wind refused to come. When the members of the party arose on the morning of July 11, they sent up a joyous cry. A strong steady wind was blowing from the south! The three daring countrymen made ready to start on their hazardous journey. A few moments for the last farewells and Andree, with his two companions, jumped aboard and the retaining ropes were cut. Rising for a short time, the current of air coming from the mountains caused the balloon to descend suddenly until the car touched the waves, but it speedily rebounded until the huge gas bag reached an altitude of 3,000 feet, journeying northward until, within an hour after the ascension, it finally disappeared altogether from the sight of man.

DEATH OF GREAT SCIENTIST.

Passing of Father of Inventor of Bell Telephone.

The death recently of Alexander Melville Bell lends interest to the important work which the family of Bells has done to lighten the burdens of those who have lost their senses of speech and hearing. The members of the Bell family for three generations, including Alexander Bell, the father of the man who a short time ago breathed his last, and Alexander Graham Bell, his son, have worked on problems of orthoepy and phonetics.

Alexander Melville Bell is known far and wide throughout the civilized



Alexander Melville Bell.

world as the man who, more than any other, has enabled the dumb to speak and the deaf to understand.

Alexander Graham Bell, of the third generation, in an endeavor to perfect and improve the system evolved by his father, made the great discovery which resulted in the invention of the telephone.

The first Alexander Bell, a native Scotchman, was a distinguished teacher of elocution and was deeply engaged in the study of orthoepy and phonetics. He had invented a method for removing impediments from the speech before his son took up his studies.

While he was in this country delivering a course of lectures he became convinced that America offered him a better field than the Old Country, and in



Alexander Graham Bell, Inventor of the Telephone.

1870 he took up his residence in Ontario, Canada.

Mr. Bell was one of the founders of the Volta Bureau at Washington, an institution which has for its object the dissemination of knowledge among the deaf and dumb. The nucleus of the fund from which the bureau was founded was 50,000 francs, awarded by the government of France to Prof. Alexander Graham Bell in recognition of his services to the public in inventing telephones. This was called the Volta prize and has been awarded only four times by the French government.

From that day until this no mortal has seen or heard from the expedition save through the carrier pigeons released by Andree; but competent authorities believe that if some awful catastrophe had not come upon the voyagers, they might have been able to exist in the Arctic regions for several years. Everything that could be done to insure the success of the trip was done before they started. They were provided with every necessary of life; they had provisions, arms, ammunition, sledges, and a boat. Their provisions were calculated to last nine months. The food consisted of every kind of steaks, sausages, hams, fish, chickens, game, vegetables and fruit. If, in descending, this food had been saved, together with the food which the explorers could procure through hunting and fishing, they could, it is believed, have lived for two years at least. Their fate, however, is wrapped in mystery. They could, had they landed on the mainland, gradually have journeyed southward, meeting with friendly whalers who could have assisted them back to civilization. If they dropped into the ocean, they are lost. If they have reached the Polar cap and wrecked their balloon, they undoubtedly found the wonderful spot which so many have striven to find. Whether the world will soon be able to learn of their experiences and their fate is a question which possibly Commander Peary's expedition will be able to solve.